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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, February 17, 1983 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended February 12 totaled an estimated 15.3 billion ton-miles, 4.6 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 6 weeks of 1983 was an estimated 89.3 billion ton-miles, 2.7 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended February 12 totaled 350,041 cars, 8.4 percent below 1982, but 2.2 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were down 14.6 percent in the East, 8.3 percent in the South and 4.5 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1982, 15 of the 21 commodity groups were down. However, loadings of lumber and wood products registered a 28.6 percent gain and motor vehicle and equipment loadings were up 18.0 percent. Fourteen of the 21 groups were up from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended February 5 totaled 41,611 cars, up 15.6 percent from the corresponding week of 1982 and 69,765 trailers and/or containers, 9.4 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first five weeks of the year was 196,648 cars, 16.6 percent higher than last year, and 330,303 trailers and/or containers, up 10.0 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 2/12/83:

	Loadings in Week ended February 12, 1983		Change from Corresponding Week 1982			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	27,874	I	1,402	5.3	I	3,318	13.5
Other farm products	3,537	D	202	5.4	D	711	16.7
Metallic ores	10,128	D	11,138	52.4	I	845	9.1
Coal	95,888	D	15,516	13.9	I	199	0.2
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	7,062	D	1,712	19.5	D	342	4.6
Nonmetallic minerals	10,286	I	430	7.3	D	185	1.8
Grain mill products	12,101	D	2,224	15.5	I	151	1.3
Food and kindred products	13,391	D	1,531	10.3	I	164	1.2
Primary forest products	13,432	D	3,510	20.7	D	914	6.4
Lumber and wood products except furniture	6,955	I	1,547	28.6	D	7	0.1
Pulp, paper and allied products	15,450	D	2,567	14.2	D	137	0.9
Chemicals and allied products	23,517	D	506	2.1	I	458	2.0
Petroleum products	4,432	D	552	11.1	I	271	6.5
Stone, clay and glass products	8,627	D	1,017	10.5	D	254	2.9
Coke	4,421	D	279	5.9	I	153	3.6
Metals and products	9,172	D	1,537	14.4	I	390	4.4
Motor vehicles and equipment	15,648	I	2,391	18.0	I	348	2.3
Waste and scrap materials	7,640	D	1,731	18.5	I	548	7.7
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	9,556	I	108	1.1	I	626	7.0
All other carloads	50,711	I	7,343	16.9	I	2,541	5.3
LCL traffic	213	D	1,473	87.4	I	5	2.4
Total Cars Loaded	350,041	D	32,274	8.4	I	7,467	2.2
Corresponding week of 1982	382,315						

	1983	1982	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (6 weeks)	2,031,515	2,180,729	D 6.8
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
5 Weeks ended February 5	74.0	75.7	D 2.3
Week ended February 12	15.3	16.0	D 4 6
6 weeks cumulative	89.3	91.8	D 2.7

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